

**Montana State Historic Preservation Office  
Montana Historical Society**

**Federal FY2004  
Annual Report of Activities  
(October 1, 2003 – September 30, 2004)**

**in accordance with**

***Working Together to PRESERVE MONTANA***

**The Montana Historic Preservation Plan 2003-2007**



**November, 2004**

**Montana State Historic Preservation Office  
Montana Historical Society**

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On the cover:

Montana SHPO State Archaeologist Stan Wilmoth points out features of a stone tool to Harlowton High School students participating in a Montana Heritage Project field workshop to document prehistoric archaeological sites in central Montana.  
(Photo by Michael L. Umphrey)

***Working Together to PRESERVE MONTANA***  
**Montana State Plan Preservation Goals and Objectives 2003 - 2007**

**Goal I. Foster a preservation ethic for Montana's heritage properties**

***Objectives:***

1. Instill an awareness and appreciation for Montana's heritage and heritage properties.
2. Encourage the integration of historic preservation in planning and policy-making.
3. Promote the cultural, social, and economic benefits of historic preservation.
4. Provide leadership and vision in historic preservation.

**Goal II. Identify, evaluate, and recognize Montana's heritage properties**

***Objectives:***

1. Survey or support the survey of un-inventoried properties throughout the state.
2. Guide the development and use of historical contexts for evaluating the significance and integrity of Montana's archaeological, historic, and cultural sites.
3. Encourage and assist owners to list properties in the National Register of Historic Places.

**Goal III. Create and support a statewide comprehensive source for information about Montana's heritage properties and historic preservation**

***Objectives:***

1. Acquire, organize, and share data on the state's archaeological, historic, and traditional cultural sites.
2. Gather, develop, and disseminate historic preservation guidance and standards.
3. Identify financial and human resources to assist preservation.

**Goal IV. Encourage the involvement of Montana's tribes in historic preservation**

***Objectives:***

1. Meet regularly with tribal cultural representatives to discuss issues and concerns.
2. Sponsor or co-sponsor forums that include Native Americans.
3. Facilitate the consideration of tribal perspectives regarding the treatment of heritage properties.

**Goal V. Work effectively with all agencies, organizations, and individuals for good stewardship and sensitive treatment of Montana's heritage properties**

***Objectives:***

1. Effectively apply historic preservation programs, strategies, techniques, laws, and information to the preservation of Montana's heritage properties.
2. Solidify existing partnerships and form new consensus for the benefit of historic preservation.
3. Strengthen local and private efforts to preserve.
4. Develop and support special programs for the preservation of resources at risk.

## **Three FY2004 Montana Historic Preservation Highlights**

### **Historic Preservation Public Programs Made Available**

The Montana State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) brought historic preservation into a variety of public forums in FY2004, beginning with the Montana History Conference in Helena in October 2003. SHPO served as program chair for the 2003 History Conference, bringing to the over 300 attendees a fresh historic property flavor under the theme: *Montana, A Treasured Place*. In July 2004, SHPO provided funding and support to the Virginia City Certified Local Government (CLG) in hosting a two-day conference on *Historic Preservation Partnerships* that attracted 60 participants. SHPO also helped the Montana Preservation Alliance in bringing the Alliance of National Heritage Areas-Heritage Development Institute to conduct back-to-back workshops September 23-24, 2004, in Virginia City and Butte on the *Basics of Heritage Areas*. Combined with an April 2004 historic preservation lecture series, a spring introduction to archaeology near Harlowton for high school students and teachers of the Montana Heritage project, and the popular Montana Historical Society *Archaeology Day!* in the Fall, it was a good year for raising public awareness.

### **Montana National Register Listings Increase**

Following two years of decline, the number of Montana properties listed in the National Register of Historic Places increased to 13 in FY2004 (up from 8 in FY2003). Moreover, these include two new historic districts (HD) with a combined 438 contributing properties: the McCormick Neighborhood Historic District in Missoula (339 contributing buildings) listed May 19, 2004 and the Great Falls Central Business Historic District (99 contributing buildings) listed August 19, 2004. Both community surveys occurred in towns participating in the Certified Local Government (CLG) program and both were supported by Historic Preservation Fund sub-grants from previous years. Other properties listed in FY2004 include a bridge, a barn, two houses, a parsonage, a dude ranch, a bank, a former saloon, two commercial buildings, and a WWII airfield. Financial assistance in preparing nominations was provided through a fund established by the MT Land Title Association Foundation.

### **Meeting the Challenge of Review and Compliance**

The number of written comments provided by Montana SHPO on development projects that may have an impact on historic and archaeological sites has increased steadily over the past 5 years, reaching to over 3,000 replies in FY2004. At the same time, SHPO has maintained a record of timely responses: on average less than one-day turn-around for initial file search recommendations and under 10 calendar days average in FY2004 for other reviews involving surveys, eligibility findings, effect determinations, and preservation agreements pursuant to section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and the Montana state Antiquities Act. Contributing to this success we believe are increased agency and applicant awareness and acceptance of regulations and procedures, availability of guidance materials (e.g. *Consulting with Montana SHPO*), and ongoing improvements in the state's cultural resource information management systems.

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**ADMINISTRATIVE PROGRAM**

Conduct eligible administrative activities that contribute to the conservation and preservation of Montana's significant historic and prehistoric properties and to the goals of the Montana State Preservation Plan 2003-2007, *Working Together to PRESERVE MONTANA*, including, but not limited to the following: budget formulation and execution, personnel management, administrative organization, and fiscal management. *State Plan 2003-2007: Goals I.4; III.3; V.1*

FY2004 General Administration Program Activities:

- ✓ Followed National Park Service (NPS) policies and procedures in allocation and expenditure of FY2004 federal grant (Historic Preservation Fund).
- ✓ Maintained professional staffing requirements including positions meeting the Secretary of the Interior's standards for professional qualifications in historic preservation, history, architectural history, and archaeology.

FY2004 Special Initiatives:

***. Create opportunities for SHPO staff development and professional training  
{Goal/Objective: I.4}***

SHPO staff participated in various activities to enhance their professional skills, experience, and understanding of historic preservation, including the following:

- ✓ *Conferences:* Attendance and/or participation by one or more staff in the Montana History Conference (Helena, October 23-25, 2003), the National Trust Historic Preservation Conference (Denver, CO: September 30 – October 5, 2003), the annual meeting of the Montana Archaeological Society (Miles City: April 30-May 1, 2004), and the North Dakota Preservation Conference (Grand Forks, ND: May 1-2, 2004). SHPO also co-sponsored and participated in a two-day preservation conference on *Historic Preservation Partnerships* held in Virginia City, July 15-16, 2004 in conjunction with a statewide Certified Local Government meeting.
- ✓ *Workshops:* Kate Hampton attended a *Cultural Landscapes and Historic Preservation Forum* hosted by Goucher College, Baltimore, MD, March 18-20, 2004; Pete Brown and Rolene Schliesman attended a one-day workshop on the *Economics of Preserving White Elephant Buildings* given by Donovan Rypkema in Livingston, September 8, 2004; and Rolene Schliesman also participated in a

National Heritage Area workshop put on by the Alliance of National Heritage Areas – Heritage Development Institute in Virginia City and Butte, September 23-24, 2004.

- ✓ Participation by SHPO staff in USDA Forest Service *Passport-in-Time* field projects (see below: Development)
- ✓ Mark Baumler, Josef Warhank, Rolene Schliesman, and Melisa Kaiser each attended classes offered through the State of Montana Professional Development Center.
- ✓ Stan Wilmoth adjusted his SHPO work schedule to enable himself to teach Native American Studies 101 in the fall and Anthropology 101 in the spring at the University of Montana - Helena.

***. Support a student internship in the State Historic Preservation Office with the University of Montana {Goal/Objective: I.4; V.2}***

- ✓ Melissa Ray, Anthropology student at the University of Montana, was employed as a student intern February 2 through May 14, 2004, under agreement with the University Center for Work-Based Learning. Melissa's experiences included cultural record and database management, responses to file search requests, participation in meetings and discussions, outreach activities, and other duties as assigned. She now attends the University of Montana graduate program in Anthropology.

***. Develop and justify state budget request and operational support for historic preservation for the 2005 Montana State Legislature {Goal/Objective: I.3; III.3}***

- ✓ SHPO responded to inquiries from the Montana Legislative Audit office and contributed to the Montana Historical Society's 2006-2007 biennium budget request.
- ✓ SHPO's budget request includes a "present-law" adjustment to increase state funding in support of inflationary operational expenses for the state Historic Preservation Review Board.
- At the direction of the Governor's budget office, no "new proposals" (i.e. new programs, staff, or operations) were put forward in the 2006-2007 state budget request.
- Montana's state general fund match for the historic preservation program is currently one of the lowest in the nation (\$45,558 in 2004). Meanwhile fixed costs and administrative indirect expense charges (overhead) charged to the program have increased steadily over the past four years, resulting in a net loss of overall operating budget.

## HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLANNING PROGRAM

Conduct eligible planning activities that contribute to the conservation and preservation of Montana's significant historic and prehistoric properties and the goals of the Montana State Preservation Plan 2003-2007, *Working Together to PRESERVE MONTANA*, including, but not limited to the following: the monitoring of the implementation of the objectives of the State Plan; the conduct of a planning process for creation, review, and revision of state and local plans; the development of planning studies and historic contexts; the support of state and local preservation ordinances, regulations and laws; and the application of advanced technologies in comprehensive historic and prehistoric property information management and analysis.

*State Plan 2003-2007: Goals/Objectives: I.2; I.4; II.2; III.2; V.1; V.3*

### FY2004 General Planning Program Activities:

- ✓ Regularly updated SHPO website at [www.montanahistoricalociety.org/shpo](http://www.montanahistoricalociety.org/shpo) with information on SHPO policies, programs and initiatives, including downloadable forms and guidance. The SHPO website averaged 525 visits per month in FY2004.
- ✓ Held a staff planning session to develop and subsequently implemented the FY2004 work-plan based on the revised goals and objectives of the 2003-2007 Montana State Preservation Plan, *Working Together to PRESERVE MONTANA*.
- ✓ Worked extensively with Butte-Silver Bow County Certified Local Government (CLG) to improve local preservation program (on probation), including possible revised ordinance.
- ✓ Advised and met with Helena-Lewis & Clark County CLG regarding proposed amended local preservation ordinance.
- Publication and dissemination of a public summary of the Montana Historic Preservation Plan continues to be on hold, pending funds.

### FY2004 Special Initiatives:

#### ***. Participate in historic preservation planning efforts at the local, state, and federal level {Goal/Objective: I.2; V.2}***

- ✓ Continued review and comment on federal general planning documents involving historic preservation, most notably for the Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, and National Park Service.
- ✓ Continued input to Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks for the sensible and sensitive management of heritage parks, especially Traveler's Rest, Pictograph Cave, and Rosebud Battlefield.

- ✓ Service on the Montana Heritage Commission in the management and planning for the Virginia City National Historic Landmark.
- ✓ Participated in 2004 strategic planning process for the Montana Historical Society.
- ✓ Provided special project funding to the Anaconda/Deer Lodge County Certified Local government for the updating of their local historic preservation plan.

***. Enhance information management capabilities of the State Antiquities Database, including development of web-server data-sharing capabilities in cooperation with the Montana State Library, Natural Resource Information System {Goal/Objective: I.1; III.1}***

- ✓ Under contract with the Natural Resource Information System (NRIS) of the Montana State Library, initiated pilot project to host cultural resource database information on the NRIS web-server in a secure but more accessible shared environment for certified users (e.g. University of Montana; Bureau of Land Management). Scheduled project completion date: December 30, 2004.

## **SURVEY AND INVENTORY PROGRAM**

Conduct eligible survey and inventory activities that contribute to the conservation and preservation of Montana's significant historic and prehistoric properties and the goals of the Montana State Preservation Plan 2003-2007, *Working Together to PRESERVE MONTANA*, including, but not limited to the following: the conduct or support of intensive and reconnaissance level surveys to locate, identify, record and evaluate historic and prehistoric properties; the development, maintenance and use of inventory information regarding cultural resources statewide; and the application of advanced technologies in support of the above.

*State Plan 2003-2007: Goals/Objectives: II.1; II.2; III.1*

FY2004 General Survey and Inventory Program Activities:

- ✓ 947 new cultural resource reports incorporated into the SHPO statewide Cultural Resource Annotated Bibliography System (CRABS) and library, representing 152,265 acres of new survey [comparison: FY2003: 971 reports/136,999 acres survey and FY2002: 892 reports/80,356 acres survey]. There are currently 27,500 documents in CRABS.
- ✓ 1617 newly recorded cultural resource properties added to the Cultural Resource Information System (CRIS) database and statewide inventory maintained in partnership with the University of Montana Department of Anthropology, including 1010 new historic sites and 607 new archaeological sites [down slightly from FY2002: 1771 new properties; 1088 historic and 683 archaeological sites]. There are currently more than 43,000 properties recorded in Montana.



- ✓ Received national award from Bureau of Land Management in recognition and appreciation for contributions to inventory data sharing program development.
- ✓ Provided special small project funding to Billings/Yellowstone County Certified Local Government (CLG) for production of walking tour brochure for Laurel.
- ✓ Allocated \$5,000 in support of survey and inventory of Missoula downtown commercial district through FY2005.
- ✓ Provided close technical assistance and guidance for completion of historic building survey and inventory of Ekalaka (Carter County), funded by Housing and Urban Development/Community Development Block Grant (HUD/CDBG).
- ✓ Staff participation in several small survey and inventory efforts, including recordation of prehistoric archaeological sites in conjunction with the Montana Heritage Project (see below) and the Montana Archaeological Society.
- ✓ Wrote grant application for 2005-2007 inventory of historic resources associated with Afro-Americans in Montana.

FY2004 Special Initiatives:

***. Promote the Montana Heritage Barn Project, supporting the survey & inventory, understanding and appreciation of Montana's historic barns {Goal/Objective: I.1; II.1}***

- ✓ Provided special small project funding to Carbon County Certified Local Government (CLG) to support a reconnaissance inventory of historic barns.
- ✓ The Bonnell Gothic Arch Roofed barn, Park County, listed in the National Register on September 15, 2004. The LaPierre Horse Hotel (Barn), Daniels County, draft nomination approved for listing by the State Preservation Review Board.
- ✓ Ongoing discussions with the Montana History Foundation and Montana Preservation Alliance for the funding, production, and publication of a book on Montana barns.
- ✓ Technical assistance and advice provided to inquiries by owners for the preservation of historic barns.

***. Provide training and technical assistance to the community survey and inventory of historic resources in Roundup, Musselshell County, MT {Goal/Objective: II.1; V.3}***

- ✓ Provided on-site and in-office training to representatives of the city of Roundup for the ongoing survey and inventory of historic resources.
- ✓ Presented overview of Montana certified Local Government (CLG) program to Roundup City Council in anticipation of city application to participate in program.

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROGRAM

Conduct eligible activities related to the National Register of Historic Places that contribute to the conservation and preservation of Montana's significant historic and prehistoric properties and the goals of the Montana State Preservation Plan 2003-2007, *Working Together to PRESERVE MONTANA*, including, but not limited to the following: the provision of staff support and organization for the Montana State Historic Preservation Review Board; the documentation and evaluation of historic and prehistoric resources for potential eligibility for listing in the National Register; the preparation, editing and submission of nominations of eligible properties to the National Register; the participation in the designation of National Historic Landmarks; the public notification, education and participation in the nomination process; and the support of the official Montana National Register Sign program.

*State Plan 2003-2007: Goals/Objectives: II.2; II.3*

### FY2004 General National Register Program Activities:

- ✓ Four meetings of the Montana State Historic Preservation Review Board held: October 13, 2003 (Forsyth); December 15, 2003 (Missoula); June 27-28, 2003 (Blue Bay), and September 25-26 (Phillipsburg). Twenty-one draft nominations approved for listing.
- ✓ Thirteen properties officially listed in the National Register of Historic Places in FY2004, including two new historic districts (HD) with a combined 438 contributing properties:

Thomas & Beulah Shore House, Miles City	December 18, 2003
Dearborn River High Bridge, near Augusta	December 18, 2003
Reid House, Missoula	December 18, 2003
First United Methodist Church Parsonage, Great Falls	December 23, 2003
Brewery Saloon, Kalispell (addendum to Kalispell MRA)	February 5, 2004
Bones Brothers Ranch, near Birney	March 19, 2004
Bearcreek Bank, Carbon County	March 31, 2004
Missoula Mercantile Warehouse	April 6, 2004
Missoula McCormick Neighborhood HD (339 contributing)	May 19, 2004
Armour Cold Storage Building, Billings	July 7, 2004
Great Falls Central Business HD (99 contributing)	August 19, 2004
Bonnell Gothic Arch Roofed Barn, Park County	September 15, 2004
Lewistown Satellite Airfield HD Boundary Increase	September 17, 2004
- ✓ Two new members appointed by the Governor to the Montana State Historic Preservation Review Board in October, 2003: Robert Valach (masonry contractor, Lewistown) and James Rea (retired meteorologist, Glasgow). They replace Chris King and Germaine White, whose terms expired, in the roles of Interested Public.

- ✓ Regularly communicated and met with owners of historic properties interested in listing in the National Register of Historic Places. Participated in public meeting for Missoula McCormick Neighborhood Historic District nomination.
- ✓ Routinely provided information to public inquiries regarding properties which are currently listed in the National Register of Historic Places.
- ✓ Documented and concurred in 230 evaluations of eligibility and 467 evaluations of ineligibility of historic and archaeological properties (i.e., “consensus determinations,” primarily under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act).
- ✓ Ongoing assistance in the re-designation of the boundaries of the Traveler’s Rest National Historic Landmark in Lolo.
- ✓ File support to the Montana Historical Society National Register Sign Program in the production of over 80 interpretive signs for National Register-listed properties, including multiple properties in Superior, Red Lodge, Stevensville, Fort Benton, Anaconda, and Forsyth.

FY2004 Special Initiatives:

***. Pursue the National Register nomination of the Blue Bay CCC Camp with the Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribal Historic Preservation Office (CSKT THPO) {Goal/Objective: II.3; IV.2; V.2}***

- ✓ Continued participation with CSKT THPO in the preparation of a first joint nomination for the Blue Bay CCC Camp, a property important in tribal educational history.
- ✓ Tour and discussion of the property during Montana State Historic Preservation Review Board meeting held at Blue Bay, June 27-28, 2004. Support for nomination expressed by the Board.
- ✓ Research and writing of Blue Bay CCC Camp nomination ongoing.

***. Continue to assist owners in preparing National Register nominations through the Montana Land Title Association (MLTA) Foundation fund {Goal/Objective: II.3}***

- ✓ Bones Brothers Ranch nomination, prepared in FY2003 with assistance of the MLTA Foundation fund, was approved by the State Historic Preservation Review Board on October 13, 2003, and listed in the National Register of Historic Places on March 19, 2004.
- ✓ SHPO provided MLTA funding in FY2004 for the completion of the nomination of the Anaconda Saddle Club, Deer Lodge County. Author: Allan Mathews. Grant: \$1,000. Document pending.

- ✓ In June 2004, the MLTA Foundation announced renewed support with an additional \$10,000. Properties to be supported are currently under review for funding in FY2005.
- ✓ Made presentation on Montana National Register program at the annual Montana Land Title Association meeting, Big Sky.

**. Assist in the nomination of a prehistoric archaeological site to the National Register of Historic Places {Goal/Objective: II.3}**

- ✓ SHPO staff commented on and supported the draft nomination of archaeological site 24YE0014 under a Multiple Property Document (MPD) prepared by Yellowstone National Park entitled: *Pre-contact Archaeological Sites Along the Yellowstone River and Yellowstone Lake, Yellowstone National Park, Wyoming and Montana*.
- Upon presentation at its June 27-28, 2004 meeting, the Montana State Historic Preservation Review Board tabled consideration of its support for the MPD and nomination, following extensive discussion that included questions of terminology, comments received, and level of significance.
- ✓ Yellowstone National Park has indicated its appreciation for the Board's comments and questions and its intention to move forward with the submission of a revised MPD and documentation for 24YE0014 directly to the Keeper of the National Register as a federal nomination.

## **DEVELOPMENT/ACQUISITIONS/COVENANTS PROGRAM**

Conduct eligible activities related to development, acquisitions and/or covenants that contribute to the conservation and preservation of Montana's significant historic and prehistoric properties and the goals of the Montana State Preservation Plan 2003-2007, *Working Together to PRESERVE MONTANA*, including, but not limited to the following: the review or preparation of "pre-development" research, reports and plans necessary to document property significance and physical condition; assistance in the material conservation, protection and preservation of properties listed in the National Register of Historic Places; support to acquire, preserve, stabilize, rehabilitate, restore, and reconstruct historic resources; the preparation and provision of technical assistance in historic architectural preservation and restoration; the preparation, execution, monitoring, enforcement, and revision of historic preservation easements and covenants; and the assistance to or administration of state acquisition and development programs.

*State Plan 2003-2007: Goals/Objectives: I.4; III.3; V.1; V.2; V.3; V.4*

FY2004 General Development/Acquisition/Covenant Program Activities:

- ✓ SHPO entered into 50-year preservation agreements with three Montana recipients of National Park Service *Save America's Treasures* grants: Livingston

Depot (Livingston Depot Foundation); Virginia City National Historic Landmark (Montana Heritage Commission), and Madison County Courthouse (Madison County).

- ✓ Consulted with Lewis & Clark County pursuant to deed preservation covenant regarding proposed developments at the Lewis & Clark Fairgrounds.
- ✓ Advised City of Havre on proposed offering for sale of Old Post Office, subject to preservation quitclaim deed/covenant assignable in perpetuity to new ownership.
- ✓ Sub-granted \$5,000 in special small project funding from Historic Preservation Fund to Lewistown Certified Local Government for roof replacement on the Carnegie Public Library, a property listed in the National Register of Historic Places.
- ✓ Provided technical review and comment to the Montana Department of Commerce on seven historic building preservation projects submitted as applications for support in 2004-2005 under the Montana Tourism Infrastructure Investment program (aka TIIP grants).
- ✓ Hands-on participation by staff in three USDA Forest Service *Passport-in-Time* field historic building preservation and rehabilitation projects: Judith Basin Ranger Station (Lewis & Clark NF), Big Prairie Ranger Station (Flathead NF), and Boulder Ranger Station (Gallatin NF).
- ✓ Responded to requests from local organizations and governments and the public for technical assistance in the preservation and protection of historic properties eligible for or listed in the National Register of Historic Places (including onsite visits when possible (for example: Boulder bank building, Judith Landing PN ranch house, Sun Ranch and Dome Mountain Ranch archaeological properties, Missoula Arts Museum addition, Great Falls Largent School, Helena Montana Club, Great Falls Charlie Russel “honeymoon cabin,” and Slanina adobe house near Pompeys Pillar).

FY2004 Special Initiatives:

***. Work with Department of Administration/Architecture & Engineering Division in developing procedures to enhance the rehabilitation and preservation of state-owned historic buildings {Goal/Objective: I.2; V1, 2&4}***

- ✓ Re-established consultation protocols for consideration of historic preservation in state decision-making regarding historic building design modifications and demolition.
- ✓ Participated in state long range building program planning process.
- Opportunities for historic preservation continue to be limited as state agencies often reject continued use, rehabilitation or recycling as viable options for historic

buildings on the basis of mission and funding. The Administrative Building in the Montana Developmental Center in Boulder, an example, has been listed in Montana's Most Endangered Historic Places for 2004 by the Montana Preservation Alliance.

## **PRESERVATION TAX INCENTIVES PROGRAM**

Conduct eligible activities related to preservation tax incentives that contribute to the conservation and preservation of Montana's significant historic and prehistoric properties and the goals of the Montana State Preservation Plan 2003-2007, *Working Together to PRESERVE MONTANA*, including, but not limited to the provision of technical assistance and information to local governments, non-profits, and individuals related to the use of federal, state, and local tax incentive programs; and the review, inspection and certification of federal tax act projects pursuant to 36 CFR 67.

*State Plan 2003-2007: Goals/Objectives: I.3; III.3; V.1; V.3*

### **FY2004 General Preservation Tax Incentives Program Activities:**

- ✓ Several million dollars invested in Preservation Tax Incentive projects completed or in progress in FY2004.
- ✓ The Old Maverick Fire Station rehabilitation project in Billings completed in FY2004 (Part 3 certification) representing \$285,500 in tax credit allowable investment.
- ✓ Federal Tax Act Credit projects active and in progress in FY2004 (Parts 1 & 2):

Hermann Building, Helena  
J. K. Merrill Building, Phillipsburg  
Missoula Mercantile Warehouses, Missoula  
Parrot Mine Shop Complex, Butte  
Baide Property, Butte  
Maley Block, Butte  
Bertaglio & Metaggart Storage Building, Butte  
Montgomery ward Building, Missoula  
L&L Building, Billings  
Masonic Temple Building, Billings  
Acme Building, Billings  
John Mills Building, Billings

- ✓ Distributed federal and state tax credit information to private owners of commercial buildings and advised them on credits for rehabilitation projects as requested.
- ✓ Made three on-site visits to evaluate potential tax credit projects and to monitor ongoing projects.

FY2004 Special Initiative:

***. Provide Tax Credit training to 3 or 4 CLG communities, as requested  
{Goals/Objectives: I.3; III.2; V.2&3}***

- ✓ Pete Brown, SHPO Historic Architecture Specialist/Tax Credit Reviewer participated in a public historic preservation workshop in Butte on April 24, 2004.
- ✓ Met with Housing and Urban Development (HUD) representative and Montana Preservation Alliance (MPA) in Helena regarding preservation tax credits and low income housing.
- No additional requests for tax credit workshops were received in FY2004

## **REVIEW AND COMPLIANCE PROGRAM**

Conduct eligible review and compliance activities that contribute to the conservation and preservation of Montana's significant historic and prehistoric properties and the goals of the Montana State Preservation Plan 2003-2007, *Working Together to PRESERVE MONTANA*, including, but not limited to the following: the undertaking of timely reviews with qualified staff and according to established rules, standards, and guidelines; the review of, and comment on, proposed federal or federally funded, licensed, permitted, approved, or delegated undertakings pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), as amended and its implementing regulations at 36 CFR 800, revised; the provision of assistance to federal agencies in fulfilling their responsibilities under Section 110 of NHPA; the development and participation in agreements related to preservation compliance; the review of and comment on state activities pursuant to the Montana State Antiquities Act; and the participation as legally designated in other state preservation laws and code, including the Montana Human Skeletal Remains and Burial Protection Act, the Montana Repatriation Act, and the Montana historic preservation easement credit.

*State Plan 2003-2007: Goals/Objectives: I.2; I.4; II.2; III.1; III.2; IV.3; V.1; V.2*

FY2004 General Review and Compliance Program Activities:

- ✓ Reviewed 3,164 requests under the National Historic Preservation Act (Section 106), the National Environmental Protection Act, and the Montana State Antiquities or Montana Environmental Protection Acts (12% increase over FY2003). This represents an average 12.6 review and compliance consultations/*work day*, up from 11.3 in FY2003 and 9.5 in FY2002.
- ✓ Provided same-day response to majority of initial requests for information and/or SHPO recommendations regarding existing recorded cultural resource properties and inventories in stipulated project locations, i.e. "file searches" (Response rate = 0.29, where 0 = same day; 1 = next day). Despite an increase in the total number of file search responses, turn-around time was approximately the same as FY2003 (0.32).

- ✓ Other non-file search level Review and Compliance consultations for project undertakings (e.g. comments on cultural resource survey reports, evaluations of eligibility, determinations of effect, memoranda of agreement, programmatic agreements) were reviewed on average within 9 *calendar* days, down significantly from a 13 calendar day turn-around in FY2003 and 11 calendar days in FY2002. This greater efficacy in the SHPO review process (see also “file searches”) may in part be a reflection of the benefits of better information management as well as the greater success of agencies and consultants in coordinating with and applying SHPO guidance and procedures (see below, *Consulting with the Montana SHPO*).
- ✓ Participated in the development of and signed 8 Memoranda of Agreement (MOAs) and 5 Programmatic Agreements (PAs) with federal agencies and other concurring parties for the consideration of adverse or potential adverse effects to historic properties under Section 106 of the NHPA. Received special recognition from US Army Corps of Engineers for role in development of Missouri River Main Stem System Operations and Management Programmatic Agreement.
- ✓ Attended and participated in the USDA Forest Service Annual Heritage Meeting in Chico Hot Springs (November 2003) and the Bureau of Land Management Annual Cultural Resource Workshop in Missoula (May 2004).
- ✓ Routinely hosted meetings throughout year with representatives of state and federal agencies and applicants regarding specific project developments and undertakings.
- ✓ Regularly made on-site visits, as requested by state, tribal and federal agencies for compliance projects, including: National Park Service (Grant-Kohrs Ranch NHS, Yellowstone NP); USDA Forest Service (Kootenai NF, Lolo NF); USDI Bureau of Land Management (Dillon Field Office); General Services Administration; Veterans Administration; US Fish & Wildlife Service; Federal Highway Administration/Montana Department of Highways; Montana Heritage Commission (Virginia City NHL and Helena Reeder’s Alley); Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services; and Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks.

FY2004 Special Initiative:

***. Revise and post “Consulting with Montana SHPO,” guidance for compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act and the Montana State Antiquities Act on the Montana SHPO website {Goal/Objective: I.2 &4; III.2; IV.3}***

- ✓ *Consulting with the Montana SHPO: Guidelines and Procedures for Cultural Resource Review and Consultation under the National Historic Preservation Act and the Montana State Antiquities Act* (Montana SHPO Planning Bulletin No. 21) was revised and reissued in January 2004, to reflect our most current standards and guidelines for compliance with federal and state rules and regulations



regarding historic preservation. A copy of the document is posted on the SHPO website at [www.montanahistoricalsociety.org/shpo](http://www.montanahistoricalsociety.org/shpo)

## **LOCAL GOVERNMENT CERTIFICATION PROGRAM**

Conduct eligible activities related to the certification of local governments in the Certified Local Government (CLG) program that contribute to the conservation and preservation of Montana's significant historic and prehistoric properties and the goals of the Montana State Preservation Plan 2003-2007, *Working Together to PRESERVE MONTANA*, including, but not limited to the following: the certification of local governments as eligible under Section 101c of the National Historic Preservation Act; the planning, organizing, and assisting of the creation of Certified Local Governments; the processing of applications for certification or amendments to certification agreements; the development, monitoring, amendment, and revision as needed of the official state processes for certification and the transfer of Historic Preservation Funds to Certified Local Governments; and the monitoring and evaluation of CLG performance under sub-grants.

*State Plan 2003-2007: Goals/Objectives: I.4; III.3; V.1; V.2; V.3*

### **FY2004 General Local Government Certification Program Activities:**

- ✓ Allocated \$78,500 (13%) from FY2004 Historic Preservation Fund (HPF) to 15 Montana communities currently participating in the Certified Local Government program, exceeding the 10% minimum requirement.
- ✓ Awarded supplemental grants totaling \$20,000 from the Historic Preservation Fund (HPF) to special project applications from eight CLG communities, on a matching basis. HPF project funding ranged from \$1,000 to \$5,000 and included development of a walking tour for Laurel, support for historic preservation week programs, an inventory of historic barns in Carbon County, and assistance in the re-roofing of the National Register listed Carnegie Library in Lewistown.
- ✓ Communicated regularly with all and visited on-site with 11 of the 15 Montana CLG communities during the year.
- ✓ Organized and held two statewide CLG meetings: October 2003 in conjunction with the Montana History Conference in Helena and July 2004 in conjunction with the *Historic Preservation Partnerships* Workshop in Virginia City.
- ✓ Performed formal performance evaluations and audits of four CLG programs per rotational schedule: Helena/Lewis & Clark County (passed), Great Falls/Cascade County (passed), Livingston (passed) and Butte/Silver Bow County (ongoing probation). Communicated extensively with and met four times with Butte/Silver Bow County CLG towards goal to remove from probation by next contract cycle (Spring 2005).

- ✓ Reviewed and approved 60 CLG quarterly reports and requests for reimbursement.
- ✓ Provided special assistance to Deer Lodge CLG to maintain program certification status while Historic Preservation Commission re-organizes.
- ✓ Hosted and provided support for SHPO orientation and training in Helena for new local historic preservation officers from Bozeman, Livingston and Hardin/Big Horn County CLGs. Hosted CLG training session in Forsyth for eastern Montana CLGs in conjunction with state preservation Review Board meeting in October, 2003.
- ✓ Completely revised, updated and expanded the Montana CLG Manual to be posted on SHPO website at [www.montanahistoricalsociety.org/shpo](http://www.montanahistoricalsociety.org/shpo) in FY2005. Commended and recognized by National Park Service as example for other states.

FY2004 Special Initiatives:

***. Encourage and support the certification of one new community in the Certified Local Government program/local preservation offices {Goal/Objective: I.2; V.3}***

- ✓ Despite the lack of additional fiscal support available, SHPO continues to promote the non-financial benefits of the Certified Local Government program to interested new communities, including Dillon, Roundup, and Phillipsburg.
- No new Montana CLG programs have been certified since FY2001.

***. Develop and support a statewide list-serve for Certified Local Governments to share information and policy (Goal/Objective: V.3; III.2)***

- ✓ Successfully created and use SHPO-based listserve to facilitate sharing of information and discussion among 15 Montana CLG communities on a daily basis.

## **OTHER ACTIVITIES**

Conduct other eligible activities as identified that contribute to the conservation and preservation of Montana's significant historic and prehistoric properties and the goals of the Montana State Preservation Plan 2003-2007, *Working Together to PRESERVE MONTANA*, including, but not limited to the following: the conduct of general outreach programs that directly pertain to HPF grant-assisted preservation programs and projects; the creation, implementation and/or distribution of general purpose public educational activities, including brochures, newsletters, conferences, etc.; the assistance to HABS/HAER documentation projects; the support of statewide or local preservation organizations conducting a broad range of preservation activities; and the conduct of other activities that cross-cut other program areas.

*State Plan 2003-2007: Goals/Objectives: All*

#### FY2004 General Other Preservation Activities:

- ✓ For the seventh year straight, SHPO organized and hosted *Archaeology Day!* on the front lawn of the Montana Historical Society on September 21, 2004. This archaeology awareness event aimed at elementary and middle school students included demonstrations by SHPO staff and local archaeologists of flintknapping, atlatl-throwing, and stone-boiling as well as educational displays. Approximately 150 students took part in the event this year.
- ✓ Routinely provided expertise in historic architecture, architectural history, and archaeology to other programs and projects of the Montana Historical Society and to the Montana Heritage Commission.
- ✓ Presentations to special public interest groups, including the Montana Historical Society volunteers and the Buckle Club of the Western Rendezvous of Art. Speaker at Yellowstone County preservation roundtable in Billings.
- ✓ Participation in archaeological field projects and initiatives of the statewide Montana Archaeological Society, including service on the Board of Directors and the Committee for Conservation Archaeology, distribution of the 2004 Montana Archaeology Week poster, and participation in the Red Butte Battle Site conservation and recording project outside Dillon and the investigation of the Grady Ranch dacite sources near Canyon Creek
- ✓ Participated in and facilitated resolution of cases of discoveries of human remains under the Montana Human Remains and Burial Site Protection Act.
- ✓ Networked with national preservation partners, including the National Trust for Historic Preservation (NTHP) and the National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers (NCSHPO).
- ✓ Provided National Park Service with status evaluations for 23 Montana National Historic Landmarks.

#### FY2004 Special Initiatives:

***. Present a series of historic preservation public programs through the Montana Historical Society Thursday evening lecture series {Goal/Objective: I.1, 4; V.2}***

- ✓ SHPO staff organized and presented a series of four public lectures at the Montana Historical Society in April 2004. These included: *Researching Your Historic Property* by Kate Hampton, SHPO National Register Coordinator; *Pit Houses to Ranch Houses: Montana's Historic Architecture Styles* by Rolene Schliesman, SHPO Local Preservation and CLG Coordinator; *Preservation and Care of Historic Masonry* by Pete Brown, SHPO Historic Architecture Specialist; and *Traveler's Rest National Historic Landmark: Validation and Verification of a Lewis & Clark Campsite* by Dan Hall, Western Cultural, Inc.(invited lecturer).

**. Continue support of and cooperation in the activities of the Montana Preservation Alliance {Goal/Objective: I.3; V.2, 3&4}**

- ✓ Montana SHPO worked extensively with the statewide non-profit Montana Preservation Alliance (MPA) in FY2004, through a \$5,000 matching preservation planning sub-grant and active partnership and participation including:
  - . Preparation of articles for and co-publication of quarterly newsletter, *Preservation Montana*;
  - . Assisted in finding administrative staff support through Experience Works program;
  - . Regular participation in MPA Board meetings as an ex-officio, non-voting member;
  - . Worked with Board in revision of MPA bylaws;
  - . Co-wrote grant application for “Your Town: the Citizen’s Institute on Rural Design” for Livingston (not funded);
  - . Co-sponsorship of a two-day statewide *Historic Preservation Partnerships Conference* in Virginia City (July 15-16, 2004) and a two-day *National Heritage Area Workshop* led by the Alliance of National Heritage Areas, Heritage Development Institute in Virginia City and Butte (September 23 & 24, 2004); and
  - . Shared presentations and meetings involving public and private efforts to preserve Montana heritage properties (e.g., Libby High School; Tongue River Valley and Energy Development; Baker Hotel).

**. Participate in the planning and organization of the annual Montana History Conference, developing historic preservation sessions and programs, as appropriate {Goal/Objective: I.1; III.1; IV.2}**

- ✓ Montana SHPO served as the Program Chair for the Montana Historical Society in the development and presentation of *Montana, A Treasured Place*, the 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Montana History Conference in Helena, October 23-25, 2003. SHPO staff participation at the conference included hosting a statewide CLG meeting, presentation of a half-day workshop (*From the Foundation Up: Tracing the History of Your Property*), organization of two historic preservation/cultural resource sessions, a plenary talk *Dinosaur Discoveries in Montana: An Historical Perspective* by Jack Horner, State Paleontologist; and a half-day tour of Lewis & Clark sites in the nearby Townsend Valley.
- ✓ Throughout 2004, SHPO staff participated with other Montana Historical Society programs in the planning and development of the 2004 Montana History

Conference, *Hittin' the High Spots*, to be held in Whitefish, October 28-30, 2004. The conference will feature sessions on *Prehistoric and Historic Montana Indian Plant Use*, *Historic and Retro Tourist Attractions*, and *The Great Northern Railway* as well as tours of Glacier National Park historic landmarks and of historic sites on the North Fork Flathead River.

**. Provide field and file support to the Montana Heritage Project, a Montana Historical Society-based high school heritage curriculum program for rural community schools {Goal/Objective: I.1, 3&4; II.1-3; III.1-3; VI-3}**

- ✓ In October of 2003, Kate Hampton (SHPO National Register Coordinator) and Rolene Schliesman (SHPO Local Preservation/CLG Coordinator) instructed students of the Montana Heritage Project in how to research and document historic buildings in the community of Dillon.
- ✓ Twice, in the spring of 2004, SHPO State Archaeologist Stan Wilmoth and SHPO Cultural Records Manager Damon Murdo (with assistance from SHPO Intern Melissa Ray) provided hands-on experience for Montana Heritage Project students and teachers in the identification and recording of prehistoric archaeological sites near Harlowton. This work was featured in the Montana Heritage Project magazine *Heritage Education*, Vol. XIII, No. 1 (Autumn 2004).

**. Develop and distribute widely a historic preservation poster featuring a Montana heritage property type {Goal/Objective: I.1; V.4}**

- ✓ The 2004 Montana Preservation Poster, *The Power of Perspective*, features a birds-eye color photograph of Fort Peck Dam in Valley County taken by Donnie Sexton of Travel Montana. Fort Peck Dam, a historic engineering feat, was listed in the National Register of Historic Places on August 13, 1986.
- ✓ Over 1000 copies of the poster have been distributed, including an initial mailing in April 2004 to 600 addresses and distribution at the Montana Governor's Conference for Tourism.

**. Revise and post the Montana Preservation Services Directory {Goal/Objective: I.2, 3&4; III.2; IV.3; V.2}**

- Editing of contact information continues, however the *Montana Preservation Services Directory* was not significantly revised. This overdue and daunting task remains to be done in FY2005.

**. Meet with the new Northern Cheyenne Tribal Historic Preservation Office (THPO) to explore common ground and coordinate programs {Goal/Objective: IV.1}**

- While there has been communication between SHPO and the new Northern Cheyenne THPO and no significant issues have arisen to date, a formal meeting between SHPO and the Northern Cheyenne THPO did not occur in FY2004.

- ✓ SHPO and the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), Billings Area, have begun discussions for hosting a forum of new and emerging Montana THPOs east of the continental divide. This would include those certified or in the process of being certified by the National Park Service pursuant to the National Historic Preservation Act {Section 101(d)(2)} to assume certain duties undertaken by SHPO (i.e. Northern Cheyenne, Rocky Boys, and Blackfeet – in progress) as well as other reservations (Crow, Fort Peck, Ft. Belknap).